

NEWS RELEASE



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney
Karen P. Hewitt***

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For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - February 19, 2008

United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt announced that Denise Miranda was sentenced today in federal court in San Diego based on her previous guilty plea to the importation of 28 kilograms of cocaine, a felony. United States District Judge M. James Lorenz sentenced Miranda to serve ten years in prison and five years of supervised release and to pay a \$100 special assessment.

According to court records, the charge arose from the events of October 4, 2006. On that day, Miranda attempted to enter the United States from Mexico at the Calexico, California Port of Entry in her 2001 Ford Focus. United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agents searched the car, after a narcotic detector dog alerted to the rear of vehicle, and discovered 28 kilograms of cocaine hidden inside a fabricated compartment under the rear seat.

This case was investigated by CBP, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Bureau.

DEFENDANT

Case Number: 06cr2261-L

Denise Miranda

SUMMARY OF CHARGE

Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952 and 960 - Importation of cocaine

AGENCIES

Customs and Border Protection
Drug Enforcement Administration
Immigration and Customs Enforcement